

Series I  
Correspondence,  
1932-1973

Box 1, Folder 34

May 1, 1946 -  
June 1, 1946

Frame: 1058

RHB/vjk

1 May 1946

Dear Father and Mother:

You have probably wondered what has happened to me in the last few weeks and to be quite honest, I have wondered also. As a matter of fact I am writing this letter to you in the Naval Dispensary, in Manila, where I am recovering from too much sulfadiazine drug. But before I discuss this, I will discuss in continuity what has occurred.

In the first place, I was relieved the 23rd of April by Captain W. B. Jackson as Chief of Staff Philippine Sea Frontier and I am supposed to be free now to go home. Admiral Knuffman sent a message to Washington asking for orders for me but such orders have not as yet been forthcoming. I asked for orders to the TWELFTH Naval District and from there I hope to be ordered to some hospital nearby - I asked Edward which one - for a check up on my heart condition and to reduce my weight, if it can be done. I should hear in a day or so, but a week has already passed.

After I was relieved, I went to Baguio up in the mountains for a holiday and caught a cold, probably from playing golf. The cold was not very bad but my temperature went up to 100 degrees, so the doctors gave me a strong treatment of penicillin and sulfadiazine. My cold was almost immediately cured and my temperature fell to normal. I returned to Manila yesterday by automobile and on the way down I discovered that I had a bladder irritation. Upon arriving in Manila I rushed to the sick bay and it was discovered that I was suffering from a kidney block which was affecting my whole urinary system. I was in dreadful pain. It appears that the sulfadiazine had lodged in my kidneys and the crystals were cutting my kidney with the result that I was emitting a bloody solution. The medical staff immediately turned to and fed me, intravenously, large quantities of saline solutions with some glucose, and made me drink water and fruit juices but the latter I vomited up immediately and it was no go for sometime. I recovered fairly rapidly and, today, except for the after effects, I am normal. The doctors say that I was very smart to have come directly to the dispensary, instead of going home, as in a stoppage, such as mine, every moment is precious. They say that I was one of those rare cases which got affected by sulfadiazine, and that even I might not have been so affected had I taken more water than I did. However, I was not advised about taking extra water, and I just took the normal amount. At Baguio, that was probably alright because of the coolness, but when I started to perspire on the lower levels, the water balance was not enough and the water went out in perspiration instead of through the kidney with the bad result as above reported. All that I can say, is this; anybody that wants this disease can have it at half price.

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HRB/wjk (2)

Mr. Herbert Hoover arrived in town last night and will be here for a day or so, but whether I will see him or not, I know not. Other important personages in American life are coming through here immediately, including Roy Howard, Eisenhower and others. I expect to meet most of them before I go.

I have not, as yet, decided whether to go home by ship or air. Both have been offered but, at the present moment, I prefer the boat as it is relaxing and I would like to be in as good shape as I can be when I fall into Edward's clutches, so that his staff can make a competent appraisal of my coronary disturbance. Very frankly, I have not been very worried about it. I do not know what caused it and had we not had the ECG, no one else would have known of my difficulty. I am glad, of course, that if it is there, the ECG found it, but I sincerely trust that it won't be as bad as it might be.

Things are going along quite well with me. I have received numerous commendations of all kinds from all kinds of people for my successful handling of the Philippine Sea Frontier under Admiral Kauffman and the boards arriving here now, all attest that the Philippine Sea Frontier far excels in the Pacific in the output of its work in surplus and in its mental attitude, so I can leave here with a feeling - even though I say it myself - of duty "well done". That is what Admiral Kauffman has told me, also.

Tell Jocelyn not to pay my income tax as I have found out that I can save about one thousand dollars on it because of the fact I was in the Philippines. I have several times thought of sending the figures to him but things have interfered. Perhaps I shall have a chance now.

I received a very nice letter from Edward in which he discussed my case history and he seemed most heartening, but long distance medical work is not very important, and I realize that I cannot place too much of a load on him from here. I appreciate his friendly interest and I naturally appreciate his advice above any other medical men I know. He is a very capable man and is recognized as such.

We gave a dinner for the High Commissioner upon his return from the States and we made it buffet. I told the Admiral I was disgusted with the buffet parties here in Manila as they are always the same thing - some kind of cold meat, beans and some kind of salad. So, in this case, we gave them beef bouillon with a kick of sherry in it which made it delicious. Then we gave them an Indian curry made out of lamb with the many side dishes that the Chinese love and finally we had ice cream. Everybody devoured it, leaving nothing. It was a great success. We had as guests not only the High Commissioner, his wife and daughter, but also Mr. Frank Belgrano, Mrs. Belgrano and his two daughters, and Admiral Stockton and General Rose, the aids on the High Commissioners Staff.

RWB/wjk (3)

We showed a movie in the garden afterwards, called, "The Harvey Girls", and it was excellent.

There isn't much more to relate at present as you probably realize I am dictating this from the naval dispensary and if you smell medicine, it is merely there through absorption.

Best love to everybody.

Your loving son,

Dick.

Mr. & Mrs. H. L. A. Bates,  
727 Paru Street,  
Alameda, California.

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JAMES M. MEAD, N. Y., CHAIRMAN  
TOM CONNALLY, TEX.  
HARLEY M. KILGORE, W. VA.  
JAMES M. TUNNELL, DEL.  
HUGH B. MITCHELL, WASH.  
FRANK P. BRIGGS, MO.

OWEN BREWSTER, MAINE  
JOSEPH H. BALL, MINN.  
HOMER FERGUSON, MICH.  
WILLIAM F. KNOWLAND, CALIF.

GEORGE MEADER, CHIEF COUNSEL

## United States Senate

SPECIAL COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING  
THE NATIONAL DEFENSE PROGRAM

May 1, 1946

Dear Dick:

Your letter of April 24th has been received and is greatly appreciated. It was very pleasant meeting with you and your associates in Manila and I hope that you will be coming through Washington in the not too distant future.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



William F. Knowland  
United States Senator

Commodore R. W. Bates, USN  
Philippine Sea Frontier  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

1063

C O P Y

Phil-72-fdm  
Pl5

6 May 1946

Serial:

From: Commander Philippine Sea Frontier.  
To : Chief of Naval Personnel.  
Subject: Commodore Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy,  
Recommendation for award of Letter of  
Commendation and Ribbon to.

1. Commodore Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy, has been  
recommended for the Letter of Commendation with Ribbon.

Enclosure:

1. Copy of Propose Citation.

1064

C O P Y

Phil-72-fdm  
Pl5

6 May 1946

Serial:

From: Commander Philippine Sea Frontier.  
To : Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet.  
Subject: Commodore Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy,  
Recommendation for award of Letter of  
Commendation and Ribbon to.

1. It is recommended that Commodore Richard W. Bates, U. S. Navy, be awarded the Letter of Commendation with Ribbon for outstanding services as described in enclosure 1.

2. The services rendered by Commodore Bates during his tenure of office as my Chief of Staff were of the greatest value in their contribution to the fulfillment of the mission of the Philippine Sea Frontier.

Enclosure:

1. Proposed Citation.

1065

FLAGSHIP OF THE COMMANDER  
AMPHIBIOUS FORCES  
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

In the name of the President of the United States, the Commander Amphibious Forces, United States Pacific Fleet, takes pleasure in presenting a GOLD STAR in lieu of a third LEGION OF MERIT MEDAL to

COMMODORE RICHARD WALLER BATES,  
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as Chief of Staff to a Task Force Commander from 25 March 1945 to 5 May 1945, during the amphibious assault and capture of Okinawa. Demonstrating outstanding ability, initiative, and resourcefulness under hazardous and trying conditions, he rendered invaluable assistance to the Task Force Commander in the preparation and execution of the Force's mission. His outstanding service and conduct throughout were in keeping with the highest traditions of the naval service."

J. L. HALL, Jr.,  
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy.

Temporary Citation

Combat Distinguishing Device authorized

1066



7 May 1946

The Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Pacific Fleet, takes pleasure in commending

COMMODORE RICHARD W. BATES  
UNITED STATES NAVY

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

"For his energetic hard work, devotion to duty, and loyalty which resulted in outstanding service in the performance of his duties as Chief of Staff for the Commander Philippine Sea Frontier during the period beginning on 29 December 1945 and ending on 24 April 1946. The boundless enthusiasm and unrelenting persistence with which Commodore Bates undertook the most difficult tasks, his careful intelligent planning and ability to envision and propose effective methods for the successful solution of unprecedented situations arising in connection with demobilization and transportation of U. S. Armed Forces personnel, the dissolution of auxiliary naval commands, the disposal of surplus property in the Philippine Islands belonging to the U. S. Government, the coordination of activities of the U. S. Army, Navy, and Air Forces and his able management of the program designed to reduce both naval personnel and material to post war levels, greatly contributed to the fulfilling of the mission of the Philippine Sea Frontier and was in keeping with the highest traditions of the U. S. Naval Service."

Commendation Ribbon Authorized.

J. H. TOWERS  
Admiral, U.S.Navy.

Copy from plain copy.

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RWB/wjk

9 May 1946

Dear Mark:

I received your historical administrative narrative with the accompanying papers and I cannot begin to tell you how delighted I am with the result of your labors. You have turned in an excellent product which should be received in a most friendly and appreciative way in Washington. I have read it with great interest and, excepting for the fact that I feel that perhaps we picked on Commander Walsh a little strongly because of his lack of combat training, it is otherwise perfect. You and your staff are to be congratulated!

I have wondered whether you have shown this history to Commodore Moran and whether you have taken it to Washington as yet. I shall be interested in hearing your reply but, should you reply, I hope you will address it to my home at 727 Paru St., Alameda, as I am being detached from here in a few days.

As I told you before, the Medical board found me with a slight heart strain and I am now going home to be hospitalized. I will not know what hospital until I get there, as I am not going home on a hospital ticket, but am, instead, going home under orders to report to Com 12 for TAD. After I get there, I plan to indicate what hospital I prefer, if any is necessary.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my service out here, but I must say, it has been difficult with the "roll-up" and "demobilization" to which must be added rain and heat, with both of which you are, of course, thoroughly familiar.

When I get on the West Coast, I shall see you if you come North. If I happen to go South I shall make it a point to look you up.

I cannot thank you too much for your devotion, not only as the historian but, also, as a Motor Torpedo Boat Squadron Commander. I know that, if you remain in the Navy, you will do well and if you retire to civilian life you will likewise do well. You are an able guy!

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RWB/wjk(2)

Please convey my warmest personal regards to Imhof and Isely. As for yourself please accept my heartiest congratulations. To this you may add, also, the congratulations of Lieut. Comdr. Cox, of MTBRen 41, who thinks you work excellent, and who says that he learned a lot from your historical efforts. He is now attached to the Philippine Off-Shore Patrol which is in the training stage to take over most of the duties of the Customs Service, the lighthouses and aids to navigation duties, etc.

Best regards, as ever

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES,  
Commodore, U. S. Navy.

Lieut. Comdr. R. C. Wark, USNR  
Naval Records Management Center,  
417 So. Spring Street,  
Los Angeles 13, California.

1069

10 May 1946.

Dear Jocelyn:

I have not written you for a little while, but I have a few moments off now, and I am, therefore, seizing this chance to write you a note and tell you how I am. I won't ask you how you are, because I expect to be home in the first days of June and I will see you for myself.

In the first place I have written both mother and Edward about various matters, and I have asked them to tell you not to pay my income tax as my statement to you of my income was wrong. I did not know that it was wrong when I first wrote you, but I discovered, recently, that, under the law of a U. S. possession, officers and men serving on shore or on a ship within the three mile limit, are not required to pay a full tax. In my own case, a rough figure indicates that I may save about \$1,000. This, naturally, is quite a windfall, so I cannot be blamed if I appreciate a rule which makes it possible to have such good fortune, can I? I am holding everything in abeyance until I get home, as I do not know how to handle the \$700 which I paid out on an insurance loan.

This year's income tax will also have a marked reduction, because I have served for four and one half months in the Philippine area. When the Philippines become independent on the 4th of July, it will no longer be an American possession, and everyone here will then be forced to pay the same tax as in the States.

I hear from the family that you are working too hard. Why this should be, I do not know, as it was my understanding that business was good everywhere as everyone has money to burn. Perhaps you are trying to get some of this money before it is burned and I can readily understand that. However, the most important thing that you have is your health; you are of no value to your family if you are sick. So I must ask you to slow down- to relax- to take time off for a holiday, even though you may feel that it is costing you more than you are willing to pay.

My illness, if I have any, can be directly traced to the fact that like you, I have always worked steadily and completely, without rest. During the war I only obtained a matter of a few hours sleep per night and, even in port, I had so much to do that I finally strained myself somehow. One strain in the family is enough. I want to hear no more about your over work.

I expect to leave here on about 15 or 16 May and should

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arrive in California, as I said before, at an early date. I shall be sorry to leave the Philippines, as I find them interesting and I like everything in the islands, except the heat. This heat is due to break about 1 June when the rain commences, and already the papers are warning people to get raincoats.

I hope this letter finds you and your family in the best of health, and that everyone is quite happy. You have done so much for me in the last past few years that it is difficult for me to say only "thanks", but here is it- "thanks".

As ever, your loving brother

Mr. H. Jocelyn Bates  
2756 10th Avenue,  
Sacramento, California.

11 May 1948.

Dear Lynda:

I am taking this opportunity of writing to you to say good-bye from the Philippine Sea Frontier, as I expect to leave in a few days for the States via the "Winged Arrow", a transport. I have chosen this way to return, because I think that I will get much more rest that way than I would by air. Admiral Kauffman will be returning to the States about the same time I am, but he is going by Admiral Cook's plane and he will see you.

It is my regret that, when you were here, I was a little out of sorts, but I am fully recovered from that now and will soon be well in all particulars, I hope.

I sincerely regret that I shall not have the good fortune and pleasure of seeing you and the other officers of your staff with whom the past three years have been so happy, and I particularly regret that I shall not see Lillian. She and I have been pals for a long time and I always look forward to seeing her. She has had her blows in this war, but she has certainly taken them as well as any soldier.

Admiral Kauffman awarded me my 3rd Legion of Merit today -this for Okinawa. It is signed by Jimmy Hall, which gave me quite a kick. Jimmy and I footballled together long ago, and he has made a fine name for himself during the past war, so I was quite pleased. Tell Jimmy that General Eisenhower spoke in a most friendly way about his capabilities to Adm. Kauffman and me the other day. He brought it up himself -said that ever there in Europe there had been an Ad. Hall who had done a wonderful job -etc. I was duly impressed.

I suppose that this Legion of mine finishes my combat war record, although Admiral Kauffman recommended me the other day for a Commendation Ribbon for my services on his staff. He couldn't have been more complimentary and said that he would have recommended me for a higher award, but, that, just as he prepared to recommend me for a Legion, he received the one from Jimmy Hall, so he decided to give me a ribbon that I did not have. It caught me completely by surprise!

The weather here is quite humid and not very pleasant, but Manila has always been so, so we all must view it philosophically. One does not mind it too much in the daytime, but it is bad at night as it cuts out good sleeping.

I hope that, if you see Swede and Emily, you will say "hello"

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for me. I have no doubt but that they are doing very well. Swede is capable! Also give my best to the many Hawaiian friends we jointly know.

It was nice to see you out here. It always looks us up.

Best regards, as ever

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Vice-Admiral L. D. McGinnick  
Deputy Commander-in-Chief,  
Pacific Fleet,  
NFO, San Francisco, California.

1073


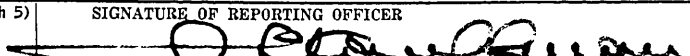
NAVPERS-310C (REV. 6-45)

# OFFICER QUALIFICATIONS RECORD JACKET COPY

PLEASE TYPE THIS FORM

If no typewriter is available use ink but be sure all copies are legible.

DATE 12 May 1946

1. NAME	(last) <b>BATES</b>	(first) <b>Richard</b>	(middle) <b>Valier</b>	RANK AND CLASSIFICATION <b>Commander - US Navy</b>	FILE NO. <b>9027</b>																								
SHIP OR STATION <b>Commander Philippine Sea Frontier</b>				PERIOD OF REPORT (mo., day, year) DATE FROM: <b>1 March 1946</b> DATE TO: <b>15 Aug 1946</b>																									
DATE OF REPORTING TO PRESENT SHIP OR STATION <b>12-29-45</b>		OCCASION FOR REPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETACHMENT OF OFFICER REPORTED ON <input type="checkbox"/> DETACHMENT OF REPORTING SENIOR <input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR SEMI-ANNUAL <input type="checkbox"/> QUARTERLY <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL																											
2. DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES SINCE LAST FITNESS REPORT (List most recent first and describe accurately. Include periods of leave, transit, etc., also include employment of ship.)				<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">FROM</th> <th colspan="2">TO</th> </tr> <tr> <th>MO.</th> <th>YR.</th> <th>MO.</th> <th>YR.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Mar</b></td> <td><b>'46</b></td> <td><b>May</b></td> <td><b>'46</b></td> </tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>		FROM		TO		MO.	YR.	MO.	YR.	<b>Mar</b>	<b>'46</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>'46</b>												
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<b>Chief of Staff, Commander Philippine Sea Frontier</b>																													
HAS PRESENT DUTY CHANGED SINCE LAST FITNESS REPORT WAS SUBMITTED? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO																													
3. IF COURSES OF INSTRUCTION WERE COMPLETED DURING PERIOD OF THIS REPORT, LIST TITLE OF COURSE, LOCATION OF SCHOOL, LENGTH OF COURSE AND DATE COMPLETED.				Are you physically qualified for Sea Duty? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don't Know																									
<b>None</b>																													
4. If Aviator, Indicate No. of Flight Hours Last Two Years For Each Type Aircraft (List Most Recent Type First)		TYPE OF AIRCRAFT		TOTAL																									
		NO. OF HOURS																											
5. MY PREFERENCE FOR NEXT DUTY IS:		SEA    KIND OF DUTY <b>Cruisers</b> SHORE    KIND OF DUTY <b>CSO - War College</b>		LOCATION <b>Pacific</b> LOCATION <b>Washington, D. C.</b>																									
6. Section 6 to be Filled in by Reporting Officer		NAME OF REPORTING OFFICER    RANK    FILE NO.    OFFICIAL STATUS RELATIVE TO OFFICER REPORTED ON <b>J. L. KAUFFMAN</b> <b>Vice Admiral</b> <b>9708</b> <b>Commander Philippine Sea Frontier</b>																											
SIGNATURE OF OFFICER REPORTED ON (Applies only to Sections 1 through 5)				SIGNATURE OF REPORTING OFFICER																									
																													

*When completed remove carbon paper, forward Pages 1 and 2, not detached, to BuPers. Retain Page 3 for "Officer's Qualification Record Jacket."*

PAGE 3

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Please forward to Command. R. W. Bates

Very respectfully,  
German Zimmerman

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RWB/wjk

14 May 1946

Dear Bill:

After considerable search, which to you may seem rather silly, but which, out here, is definitely necessary because of the lack of telephones and suitable means of communications, I found our friend Cooper. He evidently has been living with one of the two Episcopalian bishops here, but, at the present moment, neither of the bishops are in the area. I found him through the kind offices of a Spanish family here named O'ssario, who are also interested in sugar in the Negros. I was sitting around and talking with them and complaining that I had not found Senor Cooper and they said, "why we know him well, he has no telephone, but we will send our car for him and have him check in for lunch with you", which was done and Cooper showed up.

I told him that I had seen you in Pearl a few months before and of your deep interest in him and the Company. He said that he had been trying to give you the best information that he could, so I more or less dropped the matter. I know that there was some difficulty about the owners of the sugar land making a new contract with San Carlos, but the situation appeared favorable. I didn't delve into it too fully because it is your business and not mine, and he seemed capable enough to handle it himself. He had lunch with the Admiral and me twice. The first time I didn't feel that he looked too well, as his movements were slow and his demeanor was rather retiring. The next time that I saw him, which was about two weeks ago, he seemed in much better humor and showed, I thought, more enthusiasm. He seems to be a perfectly fine gentleman and a very high type of man. His friends speak quite well of him.

I was astonished to discover that he had been a prisoner of the Japs for sometime and he looks better than most of those unfortunates. Our Naval experience has not been too good with the majority of these former enemy prisoners. Their condition depends, in a large part, on which camp they were in. The Navy has always made it a point to return them to the States for a rest when they have been released. In many cases it immediately restored them to normal, although many others never recovered. I mentioned this fact to Mr. Cooper and he told me that he didn't think it necessary in his case, yet.

I am leaving the Philippine Sea Frontier now, having completed about three years at sea, and am returning to San Francisco via transport, so it appears that I shall not have the good fortune of seeing you on my way home as I have done heretofore.

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RWB/wjk(2)

This is a sincere disappointment to me, as I have told you many times before, how both you and Jim were always a breath of old Hawaii to me and Hawaii will never be the same when you both have gone. So I like to stop by Hawaii and drop in and say hello to my old friends, and to view again your lovely place there on Judd St. I shall not be disappointed, some day, if I find heaven any less attractive than your Hawaiian domicile.

When I arrive in San Francisco in early June, I shall look the situation over and let you know roughly what I am doing. It is quite possible that I may go to a hospital there, because I appear to have developed a slight heart strain in my three years of combat service in the Pacific. No one knows whether it is really serious, although the best opinion is, that it is not. Let's hope so!

You will be interested to learn that I was awarded a third Legion of Merit Medal the other day, for services in the Battle of Okinawa, when we finally ended the war. I was Chief of Staff for the Bombardment and Fire Support Group for the first two months, and I can say now, my ship was heavily hit by Kamikaze planes and over two hundred men were put out of action. That was a tough weapon to overcome! I have also been recommended by my Vice Admiral, here, for another award because of what he termed; "my outstanding service and executive ability in the handling of surplus and the rolling up of the Philippine command". So, you can see that I am leaving this area in a very good humor and with the satisfaction of a job "well done".

It will interest you to know that the Florsheim Shoes that I purchased in one of your stores have stood up very well and have met the approbation of my officers who wanted to know where I obtained them. If your sales have increased, please place the blame on me.

With warmest personal regards to yourself and with every hope that you will take care of yourself and will have many more years of a happy and fruitful life, I am as ever,

Your old friend,

R. W. BATES

Mr. William Mc Inerney,  
Judd and Laliha Sts.,  
Honolulu, T.H.

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U.S.S. RUTLAND (APA-192)

15 May 1946.

Dear Rafe:

I detected your phraseology in the letter signed by Admiral Kauffman, and only had to look up at the initials to verify that it had been prepared by you. Needless to say, I thank you for the remarks therein, as well as Admiral Kauffman for signing it. I certainly hope to round up a little rest before taking on the next job.

Just before sailing, I had an inquiry from Jim Holloway asking whether I would like to go back to the War College. Other than that, I do not know my future movements other than a desire for a month or two of leave.

With best wishes, and the hope to see you at an early date,

*Sincerely*  
*Randal*

Commodore R. W. Bates, U.S.N.,  
Staff, Commander Philippine Sea Frontier,  
% Fleet Post Office,  
San Francisco, Calif.

1078

26 May 1946

Dear General Styer,

Now that I have left Manila, and the Philippines, and am homeward bound, I am seizing this opportunity of writing to those, who, in my mind, have been highly instrumental in not only rolling up the war, but also in facilitating the peace of the Philippines. In my opinion you head this list.

I frankly admit that, when I first came to Manila, I was somewhat doubtful of the setup there, as we, at sea, were entirely unfamiliar with the shore operations, not only of the Sea Frontier, but also of AFWESPAC and PACUSA. You can imagine, therefore, my satisfaction when, having reported to Vice Admiral Kauffman and having been presented to you, you promptly invited me to dinner. I then felt that something unusual in Army and Navy relations was existant in that area. After dining with you, and after meeting your staff, I was satisfied that, with you and Vice Admiral Kauffman, we had a team which could be counted upon to maintain a most friendly front in the Western Pacific against any and all who might interfere. My five months as Chief of Staff, Philippine Sea Frontier have proved to me conclusively that my basic conceptions, as above presented, were correct.

Needless to say I thoroughly enjoyed my stay in the Philippine Sea Frontier. Also, needless to say, you and your Command were in a large way responsible for my happiness there. It is nice to operate among friendly people and it is particularly nice to operate with sister Services which are as understanding of ones own problems as those in the Philippines were.

I want to thank you very much for your friendship to me and for your assistance and understanding of my own problems. I know that, in many ways, you helped me, not only with the Admiral but, with others, and I am grateful. In return I think that you should know that you have a great admirer in me, and that I have a high appreciation of your capabilities and of the highly effective manner with which you have discharged your responsibilities. You have, of course, met opposition but no man, worth his salt, can perfectly function in a position of high trust, such as yours, without encountering some discontents. You naturally have some but not enough to worry about. I know that Vice Admiral Kauffman also has some and I have no doubt but that I have some myself.

My trip home is quite pleasant. My ship is an AP which is comfortable enough, but has no spectacular accommodations. The food, and the cabin, is good and I am gradually recovering from my few local diseases. The weather

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is cooler--much--and gives an invigoration to the body which Manila's 100° denies.

I look forward to seeing you soon in the States, which, of course, means that I hope that they won't keep you out there anymore. Your job appears mostly done and you need a rest after your arduous labors. So, until I see you again I will say "Aloha" to a very able Commander and a very loyal friend. With warmest personal regards, I am, as ever,

Yours very sincerely,

R. W. BATES

Lieutenant General W.D. Styer, A.U.S.  
Commanding General AFWESPAC  
Manila, Philippine Islands.

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26 May 1946

Dear Tate:

This is merely a note to give you some idea of what goes on on these transports and what might be done to rectify errors.

In the first place when I came aboard here in Subic, I discovered that Commander Stephensen was in error--there were no flag quarters. However I took over the Troop Commander's stateroom which suffices.

In the second place I discovered that the personnel reporting for transportation "look like hell." This includes both officers and men. Nearly everyone has long shaggy hair and most seem to wear mutilated clothing of one kind or another and many others have no clothing at all. I asked the Executive Officer to give me a memo on this subject which he did but, in his memo (hereto attached) he failed to comment on military appearance. I asked "why?" And he said that military standards were poor everywhere in the Western Pacific. However that, of course, is poppycock. We have repeatedly directed that personnel being transferred be as military, as possible, not only in appearance but also in equipment. This is evidently not being done.

Outside, of the above, which is for your eyes only, unless you choose to spread it, things are going well. This is a nice ship with a reserve Captain--formerly a merchant oiler man--but at present a Commander, USNR. His name is Peak. He runs a good ship considering the difficulties he faces of a loss of trained personnel. As a matter of fact some of his personnel including officers are on board for one trip only.

The weather we have encountered has been generally excellent although we are sailing the great circle route which takes us up to Latitude 42° plus North, and therefore the temperature seems quite cold. I use one to two blankets and am generally comfortable. We should arrive in San Francisco about 5 June. Our trip is a little slower than expected because our boiler floors have failed somewhat and we have been forced to cut out the low burners on the boilers. In this connection I saw a dispatch to Subic congratulating them on their rapid handling of this ship. Actually they did nothing excepting to give us new oil and then forgot to give us the oil characteristics. We spent several days locating, by test, the proper burning point. Also Subic sent over a water barge to provide fresh water and the barge pumps turned out to be "out of order." The ship did its best--used submersible pumps--but

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never succeeded in getting the necessary water before sailing. A lot of this trouble is, of course, due to the rapid discharge of personnel, but, with Subic now a class A Naval Base, perhaps more competent personnel will cause an improvement. Gregor has a tough job!

I want to thank you for your loyal support to me during my tour in the Philippine Sea Frontier. You took a heavy load off my hands by your capable handling of the Personnel and Administrative duties and I am grateful.

Best luck to you and the others! We all made a fine and successful team and it is too bad that, like all things, it had to come to an end. However you can now build a new one under your new Admiral and I have no doubt but that you are doing so.

Many thanks again and best of luck.

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES.

Captain VICTOR TATE, USN.  
Personnel Officer  
Staff, Philippine Sea Frontier  
% Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California.

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26 May 1946

Dear Mercedes and Joe,

It was too bad that I was not able to return to Manila for a few days, after I went to Subic, but the Winged Arrow, instead of remaining three days there, remained only one day, and I thought it best to continue in her. So I am writing this letter to say "goodbye" and to, at the same time, thank you for your friendship which I have appreciated very much and for your courtesies which I have thoroughly enjoyed. You are both such a charming combination and have such a devotion for each other, that merely knowing you always brings happiness. Now you can see why I enjoyed Manila! However I am still disappointed that I did not obtain that beautiful bracelet. I'm sorry you forgot your Spanish at that time. How American I must appear!

I shall miss our days Yachting together! I will recollect how you, Joe, endeavored to teach me, the champion of the Asturias as well as all points north, south, east and west, the finer points of Cribbage and of Gin Rummy. Don't remember? And I shall miss you, Mercedes, with your exquisite femininity and perennial good nature. What a pair!

It was nice of you both to wish to give me a "large despávida" and I should have liked to accept but I felt it wise to refuse all large parties. I was invited to about 6 large ones to be given in my honor but I accepted none excepting the Admiral's. So don't feel badly because I simply decided to become smart as I was homeward bound. I want my heart to have a chance. Doesn't that make sense? I did however enjoy my last dinner with you. It was nice!

Best regards to your families, and many thanks again for everything. As ever.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. BATES.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe McMickey<sup>174</sup>  
540 Dakota Street  
Manila, Philippine Islands.

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26 May 1946

Dear Frank,

This is merely a note to say "goodbye," and to thank you for all of your assistance to me during my tour of duty as Chief of Staff, Philippine Sea Frontier. You are a "hell of a fine fellow," and I certainly enjoyed renewing an acquaintance with you of long, but, almost forgotten, standing. I, likewise, thoroughly enjoyed meeting your beloved wife, to say nothing of your two daughters, and, in particular, of the elder who was devastating all young American males when I left Manila. The Aides were standing on their heads! What power hath this daughter over men?

I was very sorry that I was unable to attend your cocktail party in honor of Vice-Admiral Kauffman. It was a very nice gesture on your part and was, I know, a delightful affair. However my ship, instead of remaining at Subic for three days remained only one day so that I found it necessary to forego all of my plans and remain on board the Winged Arrow. Am I forgiven?

My trip home is quite comfortable, although the temperature is a little lower than I had figured on (now 55°). We are steering the great circle course which brings us north of Latitude 42° North. Luckily the sea has behaved very well.

We expect to arrive home on about 5 June. The first thing that I will do will be to pass the Central Bank Building in Oakland and give a gentle salute in honor of its first Citizen and his lovely wife.

Thanks for everything, old friend. Don't work too hard in that excessive heat, and see to it that you maintain the Philippines in a sound financial condition. I shall observe!

My best to everyone, and, especially, to the High Commissioner and Mrs. McNutt for whom I have formed a high regard.

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES.

Mr. Frank Belgrano  
Staff High Commissioner Philippines  
Manila, Philippine Islands.

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U. S. S. WINGED ARROW (AP-170)

30 May 1946

Dear Tony,

Just a note to say "goodbye" and to wish you all success in future years. You are a very fine fellow and you and your charming wife helped a great deal in making my tour of duty in Manila so successful and so happy. Muchas gracias, amigo!

I was sorry I never really got a chance to say "adios" that last night when Mrs. Manual Roxas honored us, but I had not thought that I was to leave then. However, as you have probably heard, my good ship, instead of remaining at Subic three days, remained only one, so away I went. And here I am at sea about one week out of San Francisco. I feel fine—the weather is cool but comfortable and I am finally getting that rest that I have wanted all of these years. Unfortunately there are few, if any, passengers of note and no women, so I live quietly, if not vividly.

I hope that your sugar will increase in volume so that the starving of the world will have a chance to obtain some of it. This poor world of ours appears to be sadly in need of excellent medication of which not the least are foodstuffs. Ye who live off the land harm no one and your wealth is generally Mother Nature's gift to you. May it ever be so!

I shall miss Manila and my many friends. But in future years I shall always be able to reach into my memories for happiness and not the least of this will be because of Maruja and you, my friend. Thanks!

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. BATES.

Mr. Antonio Roxas  
76 Del Pan Street  
Manila, P. I.

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U. S. S. WINGED ARROW (AP-170)

31 May 1946

Dear Dave,

I want to thank you very much for your letter of January and I hope that you will forgive my belated reply. However, my reply is not as belated as would appear because the mail service is and has been very bad. I have been receiving in May, mail from the States, mailed there in December.

It was nice of you to think of me and I can assure you that I enjoyed our service together quite a lot. The letter which I wrote you and to which you refer was exactly what I thought, otherwise I should not have written it. You have some very remarkable qualities which will always stand you in good stead, and which, had I had them, would have put two stars on my collar long ago.

It was very nice of you to send me the article about Governor Ammons and I was particularly interested that he remembers that I have first choice on being Senator from Colorado. I hope that he didn't laugh too much when he discussed it with you as one never knows what may hep out of the grabbag.

I thoroughly enjoyed my duty with Vice-Admiral Kauffman. I used the past tense advisidly as both of us have been detached and are homeward bound, he, by air, and I, being an old mariner, by sea. My duty in Manila was interesting and I think that I succeeded in so improving the Philippine Sea Frontier that we were commended by all Congressional committees as well as by Naval and Civilian visiting firemen. The Admiral could not have been too complimentary and I appreciate all that he said and wrote about me. I am now en route to the States as I said above, with orders to report to Com12 for TAD, this is because the Ancient Mariners Examining Board found me with a slight heart strain and I expect to go to a Hospital around San Francisco for a check. The best advice is that it is not serious as I have been performing my duties for months despite this discovery.

I guess you were as pleased as I was when I noted that Bowling had been awarded a Distinguished Service Medal for his handling of the PT Command. If you will recollect, it was my open statement that he should receive that award, and I am glad to see that in his case, justice was done. Finally, I want to say how delighted I was when I noted that the

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U. S. S. WINGED ARROW (AP-170)

Naval Selection Board had chosen you to remain in the Navy. I think that the Board made a wise choice in selecting you and that it will receive repayment in due measure.

With many thanks to you for your letter and with best wishes for your continued success. I am as ever.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. BATES.

Commander David J. Walsh  
790 Elm Street  
Denver 7, Colorado.

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U. S. S. WINGED ARROW (AP-170)

At Sea  
1 June 1946

Dear Oby,

Sol Philipps has probably given you all of the info on your queries to me sent in your letter of 16 April, as I discussed them all with him. However, lest there be any mistake, I will reply categorically to each question.

(A) CHINESE BOY.

1. There were only two Chinese boys in the Philippine Sea Frontier. All of the rest had been long since transferred to the 7th Fleet. These two boys were Chang, the Admiral's boy, and Bing, my boy. As Bing has only 6 months to do and wants duty in China waters I asked the Admiral to give you Chang. The Admiral said that he had promised Chang to Sol. There should be Chinese boys available at Shanghai, and perhaps, by now, you have gotten one. Bing was still at Manila with the Admiral when I left, as the Admiral would not release him. However, he may now have been transferred to the 7th Fleet. His name is Y. Bing CSt(AA). I found him excellent. His home is Hong Kong.

2. There are many Filipino Stewards of standing checking in at Manila. A letter to Captain Victor Tate, Personnel Officer, might bring surprising results.

(B) COMMANDER BURKHARDT.

1. I talked to Arthur Govin about your need for Burkhardt and he said that he could not spare him. I think that he said that he would write you about it. You see Captain White has been detached—he had the ASD in Samar—and Arthur doesn't want to lose both of these officers now.

(C) GOLF CLUBS.

1. I stirred Arthur up on this one and he said that he would look into it again. They must be around somewhere! The trouble is that personnel in the Philippine Sea Frontier are being changed so rapidly now that it is almost impossible to trace anything. We are rolling up heavily there now, and

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U. S. S. WINGED ARROW (AP-170)

your clubs may appear. I told our Supply Officer about this and I will write him a letter to alert him again, but golf clubs are not easy to find, what with golf becoming popular again in the Philippines.

I wrote to your little friend there at Guam—Miss Hargrove—about jobs as you requested. You suggested that I write to you but I wrote to her direct instead as I felt that that would save time. There are jobs.

As you probably know Arthur Govin went home on emergency leave about three weeks ago because Mamie was about to be operated on—serious. The Admiral told him that if Mamie was not well enough to return with him to the Philippines, that, he, Arthur, should ask to be detached and get a job near Mamie. I hope that Mamie gets better because Arthur likes his job at Sangley Point.

Both the Admiral and I have been detached and he has gone home via air and I, via this transport. I decided to go by sea as I want a rest. I have orders to TAD, San Francisco (12th N.D.) and there I am going to a Hospital for a check as they say my heart shows signs of strain. I think that it is poppycock but we shall see.

It was nice to see you during my stay in Manila. You are always an old pal of mine. Best to you.

Sincerely,

R. W. BATES.

Rear Admiral Osborne B. Hardison, USN.  
Commander Carrier Division FIVE  
c/o Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California.

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